

WASHINGTON.

The Spanish War Fever Cooling Down.

THE COINAGE BILL DEBATE.

Conkling's Attack on the "One-Term" Amendment.

THE NATIONAL REPUBLICAN CONVENTION.

Halleck's Death No Protection to Hancock.

The Woman's National Suffrage Cackling Convention.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 10, 1872.

The National Convention—Four rival cities contending for the honor of the place of the Convention.

The National Republican Committee are nearly all in the city. The committee meet to-morrow at the Hotel Essex. Only two questions come before this body—the time and place of holding the Nominating Convention. There is a considerable outside pressure on the latter matter. Four cities are competing zealously—Philadelphia, New York, Boston and Cincinnati—all making earnest efforts to secure it. The first two and the last appear to be the most probable, with the chances somewhat in favor of Philadelphia. As to the time of holding the Convention, it seems generally to be believed that it will not be later than the middle of June. Senator Morton introduced, when Congress assembled, a resolution providing for an adjournment of Congress—the 23d of May being named—but it will probably not be acted upon by the present Congress. The Philadelphians have a large delegation here who are lobbying for their city in the most approved style. To-night they were to give a banquet, but hearing the commotion of the "boys" they gave up the idea at the last moment, and are devoting themselves to seeing the members of the committee in person. Senator Chamberlain was the reason he was appointed to the vacant place on the committee from his State is because the administration has determined upon Philadelphia as the place for holding the Convention, and he desires to do everything in his power to secure the selection of that city.

Cooling of the Spanish War Feeling—Denial of the Charge.

There are no new phases in the Spanish question, and the war feeling of the past few days is not so strong owing to the doubts in regard to the firing on the Florida. The owner of this vessel positively says that he has received information which gives him no room to doubt that the Florida was fired upon, and that he will forward to the State Department the affidavits of the captain, mates and crew of the Florida as soon as they can be prepared. When they are received copies will be furnished the Spanish minister, and before the United States government can demand an apology for alleged offenses months must elapse. Any doubts in the Navy Department are owing to the fact that the promised statement has not been furnished. Considerable remark is occasioned by the attitude of Mr. Fish. In conversation with the members of the Foreign Relations Committee and other persons of influence in Congress, he never takes occasion to discuss the status of the incident, and in the House of Representatives he is not asked by other members of the Cabinet, and the Secretary of War and of the Navy especially offer from him. They think themselves justified in the preparations they have made, and the more peaceful attitude of the hour will not prevent them from being ready for any emergency.

Senator Conkling's Attack To-Day on the Hancock Question on the One-Term Question.

Mr. Conkling opens the debate to-morrow on the "one-term" proposition of Mr. Sumner. The speech, prepared it is said with great care, is polished and caustic to the full power of the Senator's capacity in this direction. It aims to be a broadside against Mr. Sumner and his allies, and will be particularly sarcastic on the proposition to be amended. The Senator links civil service reform and the "one-term" project in dual criticism, favoring the one as a just result, and denouncing the other as a trick and cheat. By the first places are to be no longer hinged on political position or service. The argument is that this would prevent the President using the appointing power to secure election, and then he is to be constitutionally deprived of the right of re-election. Bad means are not to be used, and good means shall not be. Both the object and necessity are to be slain. According to Mr. Conkling's hidden self, and yet does not do it. Mr. Sumner assumes as the President, even though he says the amendment shall not take effect until after 1873. Such a proposition is only a way to get rid of the idea of personal animus in the mover. It cannot be regarded as other than a thrust. The proposition returns the people in the choice of only a single officer. The Vice President, Senators and Representatives may be re-elected. Members of Congress are invited to disqualify some other than themselves. Are they more interested than Presidents—freedom from passion or ambition?

The New York Senator is expected to be historically severe on Senators who have wanted to be Presidents and failed, and thinks, from the number, that being elected Senator is really a constitutional barrier to the higher honor of Executive place. Mr. Conkling thinks that the fact of Senators never being promoted and Presidents having been re-elected, may have had something to do in animating the supporters of the restriction proposition on the Executive. The Senator is the altar of such ambition. A whole host of defeated hopes may then be piled up at every turn. The Senator probably does not believe the one term amendment would stop corrupt use of patronage, and suggests that Presidents, though ineligible to re-election, might well desire to hold other, even if lesser, places of importance.

Rumor has been busy with the declaration that Mr. Conkling proposes to make a set defense of the administration, and especially of the President. It has been anticipated that reference will be made to the charges of personal corruption, which abound here. In these matters it is probable that the Senate and public will alike be disappointed. The speech will, probably, be a sarcastic argument against the proposed amendment rather than anything like a serious attempt to reply to what it would be folly to notice so gravely. So says the special friend of Grant, as speeches like this of Mr. Conkling's are not likely, however, to be the attractive features of this session, which will doubtless be marked by sharp, impromptu and effective debate.

The House and the Coinage Bill—General Clarke, of Texas, Admitted to His Seat.

The well-filled galleries to-day indicate the fact that the social element is in motion. For skins and balm and army increase political interest among the ladies and the attendance of the fair sex was greater than usual. Immediately after the morning prayer Mr. Edwards, of Arkansas, rose to explain. He said that he had been present yesterday when Mr. Poland's report relative to affairs in Arkansas was submitted. He had denied the charges reflecting upon Senator Clayton and himself and proved them to belong to a party and a dark; but as the report had been referred to the Committee on Elections, he would possess himself in patience until that committee was heard from. Mr. Kelley's bill relating to the mint and coinage being in order, the House proceeded to consider it as Committee of the Whole. The subject of salaries provided the first serious obstacle to the fortunes of this measure. Mr. Kelley

explained the many reasons why the raising of them as proposed was desirable, and eloquently pleaded his cause. He wanted to secure the services of first class men. In answer to Mr. Garfield's criticism that the provision lacked system as to regular graduation Mr. Kelley said he did not contemplate symmetry in the scale of salaries recommended, but securing ability, integrity and responsibility for the places to be filled, which could only be done by paying for them. Mr. Wood, of New York, thought the matter of salary a secondary consideration to the great one of getting the right men to whom to pay those salaries. He cited the example of the democratic party in New York in ruling out corruption in office, and feelingly called upon the republican party to do likewise. Mr. Townsend, of New York, started the nervous sensibilities of the timid on the floor and the ladies in the galleries by a somewhat vigorous protest against the whole discussion, characterizing it as a waste of time and neglect of the best interest of the country. His manner was excited, his speech rapid and his conclusions quickly reached. He declared, with emphasis, that the present course of legislation, if persisted in, would result in our having no money to pay anybody, with and closed by moving to strike out the enacting clause which was not agreed to. Considerable discussion was elicited upon Mr. McCormick's motion providing that the metals for the base coins be furnished by contract to the lowest bidder, in which Mr. Potter, of New York, took occasion to refer to the assertion of Mr. Kelley yesterday that he, Mr. Potter, had opposed a similar bill last winter and afterward supported it and showed the reason to be that such opposition was in consequence of the clause to which Mr. McCormick's amendment alluded. The misunderstanding between the two gentlemen in regard to the matter in dispute did not clear up until the morning, a motion by Mr. Kelley to recommit was carried. During the afternoon, Mr. Sargent, of California, was sworn in. The House then proceeded to consider the report from the Committee on Elections to admit General W. L. Clarke to a seat from the Third district of Texas. Mr. Clarke's certificate declares that he is not elected, but would have been had there been peaceable polling in several counties in the district. The committee contended that he had a prima facie right to a seat, and the House sustained the report. Mr. Clarke was admitted and the House adjourned.

Revenue Reformer's Petition.
Petitions for the reduction of the tariff to a revenue basis, and especially for the removal of duties on salt, coal and pig iron, forwarded through the Taxpayers' Union, numbering eighty-six and embracing about seven thousand signatures, will be presented in the Senate to-morrow. They are 14 from Missouri, 11 from Ohio, 11 from Maryland, 9 from Illinois, 4 from Massachusetts, 3 from New York, 4 from Alabama, 3 from Indiana, 3 from Georgia, 2 each from Iowa, Kentucky, Connecticut, Wisconsin and Michigan, and 1 each from North Carolina, Vermont, Kansas, Kansas, Pennsylvania, Virginia, South Carolina and Mississippi.

Democratic Canvass.
Hon. Fernando Wood, as chairman, will call a caucus of democratic Senators and Representatives to meet in the Hall of the House of Representatives next Tuesday night to confer as to the political situation. The issuing of an address to the people is not contemplated.

The Railroad Land Grants.
An official statement shows that concessions made by Congress to States and corporations for railroad purposes, namely: Estimated quantities available in the limits of the grants—total, 207,490,031 acres; estimated quantity which the companies will receive from the grant, 172,738,430 acres; number of acres certified and patented, up to June 30, 1871, 15,350,907 acres.

The Antislavery Movement—A Colonial Sland.
The trustees of the Antislavery National Society's Cemetery held their annual meeting to-day, and closed a conference for the erecting of a new monument to the Pacific Cemetery. It is to cost \$30,000, and to be built of granite, the pedestal to be twenty-five feet high, surrounded by a statue of a soldier twenty feet in height. The statue will weigh sixty-five tons, and will be the largest in the world. It is to be completed in the year 1873.

Customs House Statistics.
An official Treasury communication shows the total number of persons employed in collection of customs during the year ending June 30, 1871, to be 4,409, at a compensation of \$5,457,540.

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The number of persons employed in Boston is 607, at a compensation of \$543,513. Employed in New York 1,252,000; compensation \$1,111,658. Employed in Philadelphia 240; compensation \$314,277. Employed in Baltimore 225; compensation \$200,000. Employed in New Orleans 200; compensation \$180,000. Employed in San Francisco 200; compensation \$180,000.

West Point.

The only matter of interest in the Senate to-day was the discussion over a bill allowing the Japanese government to send some students to the Military Academy as they have already done to the Naval Academy at Annapolis. This was reported from the Committee on Foreign Relations. It was a surprise to Mr. Chairman Cameron to find it vigorously opposed. A proviso was included allowing the Secretary of War to suspend any regulation of the Academy which he might deem necessary in order to allow the Japanese youth selected to enter the Academy. The object was to remove the examination and the oath of allegiance from their path. Mr. Thurman objected to allowing any privileged class at West Point, and Mr. Carpenter thought that to give such powers would be prejudicial to discipline. The bill was amended so as to allow the Secretary of War to modify the regulations only in matters relative to admission, and the path of allegiance was then dropped. There was a good deal of interest manifested in the bill, it being regarded as a novel innovation on our policy. Mr. Vickers, of Maryland, objected to the third reading, and so the bill went over. All that preceded and followed was of the dullest routine order, except an attempt of Mr. Chandler to refer the Customs Reform bill of Mr. Fenton to the Committee on Commerce, which would have been the end of the measure.

Our Claims on Japan.

It will be recollected that the Japanese government are indebted to us in a large sum for indemnity agreed on several years ago, in consequence of alleged injuries we have suffered at their hands. But a small portion of this indemnity has ever been paid. Mr. Japan, Japanese Affairs, has made several propositions looking to the establishment of a college of means of instruction for Americans in Japan itself, the cost thereof to be charged against the indemnity fund still unpaid. Our government declines to consider what it will do with the fund until it receives the money. Mr. Morrill's chief anxiety seems to be to avoid the payment.

The President and Sambo's Civil Rights.

The President was visited to-day by delegations of colored men who are advocating the passage of Mr. Sumner's Supplementary Civil Rights Bill. They included Mr. John F. Cook, Register, and Henry Johnson, President of the Board of Trustees of the Colored Schools, with several other leading representatives of the race in this district. Professor Green, of Philadelphia, and others from this city; a committee of the colored members of the Virginia Legislature; and several representatives of the colored race from other States. Mr. Cook made a speech to the President, giving the views of the colored people on Mr. Sumner's bill.

Professor Green, of Philadelphia; Mr. Gray, of the Arkansas Legislature; Mr. Oliver, of Richmond, and others, addressed the President to a similar purpose.

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The Late General Halleck's Command Abolished—Hancock Once More Disappointed.
In the absence of General Sherman the Secretary of War will announce in fitting terms to the army the death of its senior Major General, Henry Wager Halleck. The customary terms of regret will have something of a real significance, for, apart from the actual respect due to and left for the deceased officer, the vexed question relating to the status and command of Major General Hancock, the correspondence between General Hancock and Sherman at the time the death of General Thomas left a vacancy in the command of the military division of the Pacific, which a junior officer, was reported in these dispatches, and the delay and embarrassment of the situation were perceptible at a glance.

The death of General Halleck leaves but three Major Generals available for the four great military commands into which the country is divided, and one of which is already commanded by Lieutenant General Sheridan. The others, the Atlantic and Pacific, are commanded by Generals Meade and Schofield, and the death of Halleck leaves the division South vacant. The past action of General Hancock renders it certain that he would assign his alleged right to the division of the Pacific, and the small and not even a junior major general, especially as a way to get rid of the old and a vigorous man. But none is to be named, and immediately following upon the untimely will discontinue the division of the Pacific, and instruct the two departments of the South and West to be under the direct command of the Secretary of War. The subject of salaries provided the first serious obstacle to the fortunes of this measure. Mr. Kelley

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THE STATE CAPITAL.

Comptroller Green's Amended Bill Passed by the Legislature.

THE CREDIT OF THE METROPOLIS ASSURED.

A Convention to Frame a New City Charter Proposed in the House.

SENATOR JAS. WOOD RISES TO EXPLAIN.

The District Attorney's Office To Be Overhauled by the Judiciary Committee.

REFORMS IN THE JURY LAW.

Railroad Measures and Railroad Raids.

A Free Library for Every Village, Town and City in the State.

A Bill to Authorize the Pacific Mail Steamship Company to Reduce Their Capital to \$10,000,000.

THE BAR ASSOCIATION ON HAND.

Democrats to Have Places on the Senate Committee—The "Boss" Out in the Cold.

ERASTUS CORNING DANGEROUSLY ILL.

ALBANY, Jan. 10, 1872.

The second week of the session has opened quite briskly and business has been brought up large crowds late. Last night the city was again crowded with the various measures already introduced or soon to be introduced in either House. Among those who left in the four P. M. train from New York yesterday were the venerable Mr. Tilden, Commissioner Hank Smith, Alderman Conover, Public Works Van Nort, C. T. Robinson and a few others. As already reported, the train ran off the track near Newburg, and immediately all hands thought of the accident at New Hamburg last year. To say they were scared would scarcely express their mental condition as demonstrated by their physical and physiological appearance. Tilden has scarcely recovered his equilibrium as yet, although he is smiling around quite good-naturedly. To-day Colonel A. C. Davis, counsel of Brooklyn's Committee of Seventy, arrived, and he is now engaged in making the necessary soundings, so that in sinking the calisson on which the pillar of reform is to be erected in the sea of party strife in Brooklyn he may avoid quaking and treacherous rocks. He has determined that the column on the Brooklyn side shall be firm, and if the column being erected on the New York side also be firm, as it should be, it will be easy to throw the bridge of honest government so as to connect in the good work the two great cities of the State. There may be reasons to fear, however, that the New York reform column may be shaky. There are too many materials to act as engineers. So many kinds of material and different methods of construction are advised that it may remain, like the Washington Monument, a grand structure, promised all sorts of beautiful blocks, furnished and ready, but the erection in definitely postponed. The New Yorkers here, however, are, it would seem, really in earnest.

THE COMPTROLLER'S BILL.
The bill which I stated in my dispatch last evening would be brought up in the Senate this morning to take the place of the one introduced by the good-natured Benedict was introduced to-day last week, came up in due form shortly after the assembling of the Senate. Madden, who made such a terrific onslaught on the first bill, evidently had not at the time all his suspicions lulled as to the aim and intent of the new measure, for Benedict had no sooner introduced it than he got up and asked if it had been printed. Poor Benedict got suddenly red in the face, and, rather dismayed-looking, turned round, faced Madden, and exclaimed, rather tartly, "It has not, sir." Madden made no reply, but simply contented himself with shaking his head and looking at the New York Senators near him as though he felt like saying, and yet didn't care to stir up any rumpus by doing so.

"I'VE GOT MY EYE ON YOU FOLKS."
Benedict was apparently very much annoyed at Madden's interference, and stood a few seconds before he decided upon saying a word, meanwhile fixing his gaze upon the speaker, and firmly and eloquently his manuscript upon the floor of the bill which he held in his hand with a tight grasp than ever, as though he anticipated another fight like that of Thursday last and was in great doubt as to the best way to get out of it with flying colors. Finally he recovered himself and began to explain what the difference was between the first bill and the one he was then and there anxious the Senate should pass instantaneously, when again got the redoubtable Madden. "Ask again, sir," said he, addressing the President, "is this bill printed?" The Senator from the Fifth district took off his glasses, and with an expression of surprise to the end of his countenance, that denoted he had set his heart on the passage of the measure, again turned about and said, "It is not printed, but it is in the hands of the printer, and I will have it here in ten minutes." Madden broke in rather abruptly, "Then I move that it be referred to the Committee on Cities." This was

TOO MUCH FOR GOOD NATURE.
At least in the opinion of poor Benedict, and he sank into his seat without attempting to finish the sentence he was saying. He had just begun when the Sullivan countenance was so filled with indignation, doubtless, so cruelly broke in upon it, leaving its purport and ending in a mere meaningless "No." Madden, however, decided, to say the least, the way Benedict was put forward on Thursday last to lead the van of the New York Senators in the unequal fight they were forced to make against the republicans, who besides having too many guns for the Gothamites, had right and justice on their side from the beginning to the end of the proceedings, that denoted that during this second contest over the same question which gave rise to the first uproar, would have discouraged a much less persevering legislator than Benedict. 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